

253-5019
destroyed 8/80

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

| | |
|--------------------|------|
| STATE: Virginia | |
| COUNTY: Loudoun | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| 1. NAME | |
| COMMON: Exeter | |
| AND/OR HISTORIC: | |

| | | | |
|---|-------------|--------------------|--------------|
| 2. LOCATION | | | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: North side of Edwards Ferry Road, just east of Leesburg | | | |
| CITY OR TOWN: Leesburg vicinity | | | |
| STATE: Virginia | CODE: 51 | COUNTY: Loudoun | CODE: 107 |

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| 3. CLASSIFICATION | | | |
| CATEGORY (Check One) | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC |
| <input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object | <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both | <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress | Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate) | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum | <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Vacant |

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY | |
| OWNER'S NAME: Mrs. Helmi Carr International Pavilion Co. | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: Fort Evans Road P.O. Box 70 | |
| CITY OR TOWN: Leesburg | STATE: Virginia |
| | CODE: 51 |

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION | |
| COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Loudoun County Clerks Office | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: 18 East Market Street | |
| CITY OR TOWN: Leesburg | STATE: Virginia |
| | CODE: 51 |

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS | |
| TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory | |
| DATE OF SURVEY: 1958 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local | |
| DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: | |
| CITY OR TOWN: Washington | STATE: D. C. |
| | CODE: 11 |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

| | | | |
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7. DESCRIPTION

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|---|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One) | | | | | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Good | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins | <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed |
| | (Check One) | | | (Check One) | | |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered | <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered | <input type="checkbox"/> Moved | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Exeter's dwelling house is situated in a much overgrown yard at the end of a long lane. The house is in poor condition, but is being maintained against further deterioration. The center section of the seven-part house is covered by a gable roof and is fronted by a tetra-style, two-level Doric portico with square columns and lattice railings. The portico was added in the 1830's, replacing a one-story pedimented porch shown in the Mutual Assurance Company policies of 1803, 1805, and 1817. Flanking this center section are one-and-a-half story, one-bay, gambrel roof wings with richly ornamented pedimented dormers containing interlacing "Gothic" tracery. Both the center section and the wings are of frame but have brick rear walls. One-story passages, also of frame with brick rear walls, connect the main part of the house to one-story hipped roof dependencies. The north dependency is the kitchen and the south dependency is an office.

The first floor plan of the main part consists of a large entrance hall with stair hall behind. Flanking the hall is the parlor (south) and the dining room (north). The two-story brick wing attached to the rear of the center section was added in the 1850's. Three principal bedrooms are on the second floor of the main part. The house retains nearly all of its original interior woodwork, which is of a slightly provincial Adam style. In the entrance hall is a paneled pedestal-type dado with dentiled chair rail. The stair, while handsome, is a typical late-eighteenth century example. The most outstanding woodwork, however, is in the parlor. Here arched recesses with keystones and Wall-of-Troy moldings flank an elaborate mantel and two adjacent paneled closet doors. Traces of early wallpaper are evident throughout the first floor of the main part.

Exeter has numerous early outbuildings, mostly in ruinous condition. Most of the outbuildings are either of brick or a dark brown sandstone. To the east of the office is a stone smokehouse, and east of the kitchen is a matching stone dairy. The dairy was raised to two full stories using brick. Ruins remain of both a stone and a brick privy, as well as a stone ash house, ice house, brick cistern, and wooden corn crib. An unusually handsome stable-carriage house of brick also remains. An early wooden barn was destroyed for the construction of the nearby Leesburg by-pass.

CCL

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian☐ 16th Century☒ 18th Century☐ 20th Century☐ 15th Century☐ 17th Century☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Aboriginal☐ Education☐ Political☐ Urban Planning☐ Prehistoric☐ Engineering☐ Religion/Phi-☐ Other (Specify)☐ Historic☐ Industry

lasophy

☒ Agriculture☐ Invention☐ Science☒ Architecture☐ Landscape☐ Sculpture☐ Art

Architecture

☐ Social/Human-☐ Commerce☐ Literature

itarian

☐ Communications☐ Military☐ Theater☐ Conservation☐ Music☐ Transportation

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Exeter survives as one of the most elaborate and architecturally interesting plantation complexes in northern Virginia. Although in deteriorated condition, the richly ornamented dwelling house and its many outbuildings provide an excellent picture of plantation life in ante-bellum Loudoun County.

The original portion of Exeter's residence was built around 1790 for Dr. Wilson Cary Selden on land that he inherited from his first wife, Mary Mason Selden, a niece of George Mason of Gunston Hall. Selden was a physician by training and had served a Virginia regiment during the Revolution.

Dr. Selden and his second wife, Eleanor Love Selden, established and maintained a full-fledged plantation operation at Exeter. The house served as an architectural showpiece as well as a social center for the area. A Dr. Cutler, minister of St. James' Church in nearby Leesburg, spent a year at Exeter in 1821 and described it as being "like a Baronial Castle."

Following Dr. Selden's death in 1835, Exeter was inherited by his son, Wilson Cary Selden, Jr. Young Selden also inherited debts amounting to some \$25,000. By 1843, however, his finances were restored to the extent that he was able to provide a wedding for his daughter, Eleanor, that was hailed by contemporaries as a sumptuous social event of wide interest, served by caterers from Philadelphia. Eleanor was married to John Augustine Washington, a great-nephew of George Washington.

In 1846 Exeter was sold to General George Rust, who added the large brick wing on the rear of the house. He sold Exeter in 1856 to Abner and Haratio Trundle whose family lived there until it was acquired by the present owner with only a fraction of its original land.

Exeter was occupied by both Federal and Confederate troops during the War Between the States. The Battle of Ball's Bluff was fought on part of the property, and general Jubal

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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(Continuation Sheet)

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| | |

(Number all entries)

8.

Early used the house for his headquarters.

Architecturally, Exeter's dwelling house is an extraordinary blending of late-eighteenth century forms and details, and has no clear-cut parallel in the state. Especially notable is the house's successful blending of many roof forms on a seven-part plan. Significant details include the two-level Doric portico with its lattice railings, the elaborate pedimented dormers with interlacing "Gothic" tracery, the pedimented frontispiece, and the arched recesses in the dining room.

While the house is in need of restoration, the present owner is preserving it from further deterioration.

CCL

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Deeds and Wills of Masons, Seldens, Rusts and Trundels in Stafford, Prince William and Loudouns Counties.
 Kennedy, Mary Selden, Seldens of Virginia, New York: Frank Allaben Co., 1911.
 Rust, Ellsworth Marshall, Rusts of Virginia, Washington: privately printed, 1940.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY | | | O R | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES | | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------|---|-------------------------|--|
| CORNER | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | |
| | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | |
| NW | 39° 07' 08" | 77° 32' 39" | | | | |
| NE | 39° 07' 08" | 77° 32' 16" | | | | |
| SE | 39° 06' 49" | 77° 32' 16" | | | | |
| SW | 39° 06' 49" | 77° 32' 39" | | | | |

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 37 acres.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|--------|------|---------|------|
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

| | |
|--|--------------|
| NAME AND TITLE: | |
| Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff | |
| ORGANIZATION | DATE |
| Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission | January 1973 |
| STREET AND NUMBER: | |
| Room 1116 Ninth Street State Office Building | |
| CITY OR TOWN: | STATE |
| Richmond | Virginia |
| | CODE |
| | 51 |

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☒ Local ☐

Name

Julius R. Fishburne, Jr.
 Title Julius R. Fishburne, Jr. Director
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

Date

FEB 20 1973

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| STATE Virginia | |
| COUNTY Loudoun | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |

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| 1. NAME | | | |
| COMMON: Exeter | | | |
| AND/OR HISTORIC: | | | |
| 2. LOCATION | | | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: North side of Edwards Ferry Road, just east of Leesburg | | | |
| CITY OR TOWN: Leesburg vicinity | | | |
| STATE: Virginia | CODE 51 | COUNTY: Loudoun | CODE 107 |
| 3. MAP REFERENCE | | | |
| SOURCE: U.S.G.S. 7 1/2' quadrangle Leesburg, Va.- Maryland | | | |
| SCALE: 1:24000 | | | |
| DATE: 1952 | | | |
| 4. REQUIREMENTS | | | |
| TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS | | | |
| 1. Property boundaries where required. | | | |
| 2. North arrow. | | | |
| 3. Latitude and longitude reference. | | | |

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

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| 3. PHOTO REFERENCE | | | |
| PHOTO CREDIT: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission | | | |
| DATE OF PHOTO: 1971 | | | |
| NEGATIVE FILED AT: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission: Richmond, Va. | | | |
| 4. IDENTIFICATION | | | |
| DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. View of house from west. | | | |



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| Virginia | 51 | Loudoun | 107 |
| 3. MAP REFERENCE | | | |
| SOURCE: | | | |
| Plan of Exeter | | | |
| SCALE: no scale | | | |
| DATE: 1972 | | | |
| 4. REQUIREMENTS | | | |
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| 1. Property boundaries where required. | | | |
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| Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission; Richmond, Va. | | | |
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| DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. | | | |
| Detail of second floor dormer, front, north end. | | | |



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| SOURCE: | | | |
| U. S. G. S. 7 1/2' quadrangle Leesburg, Va.- Maryland | | | |
| SCALE: 1:24000 | | | |
| DATE: 1952 | | | |
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

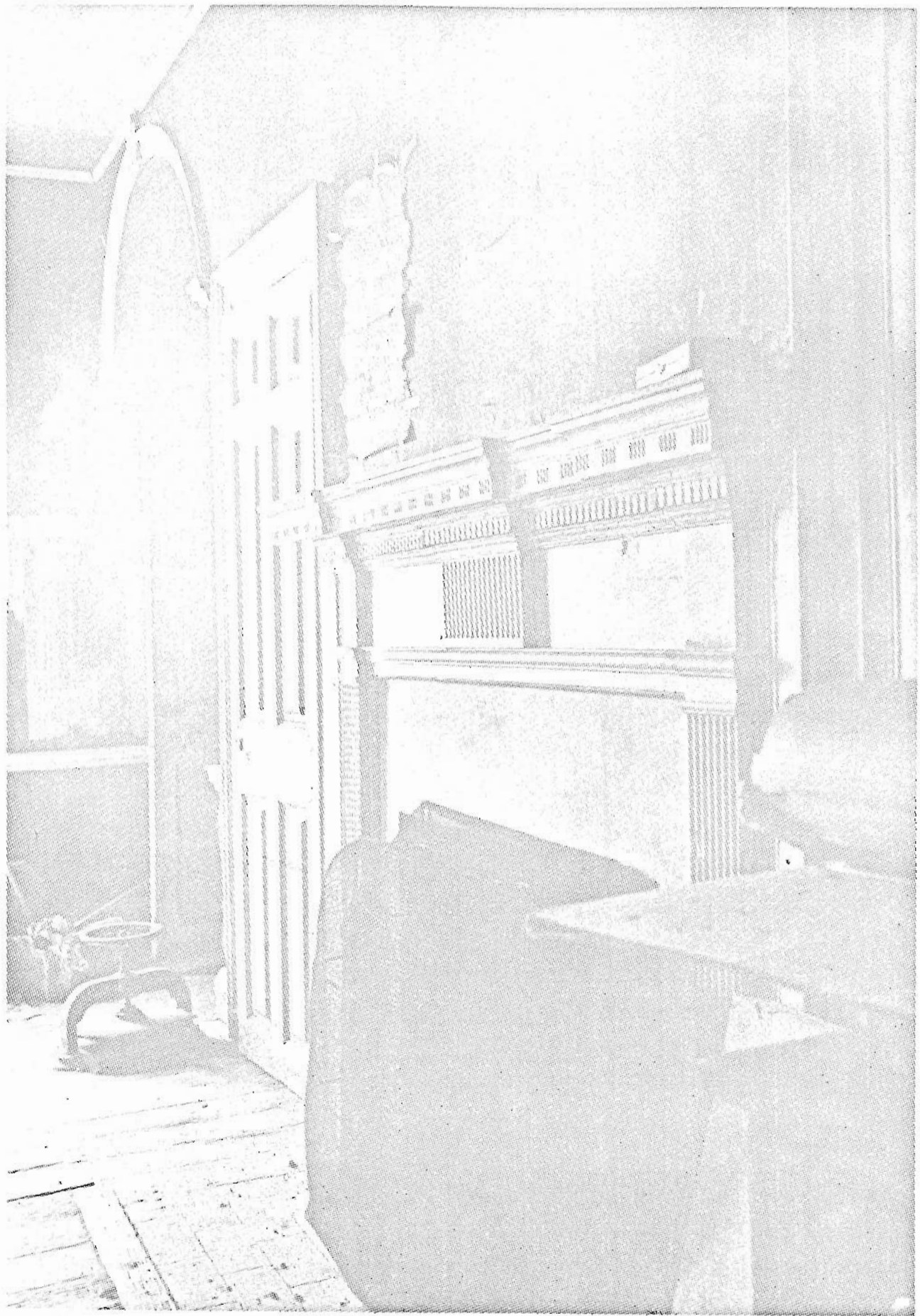
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

| | |
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| STATE Virginia | |
| COUNTY Loudoun | |
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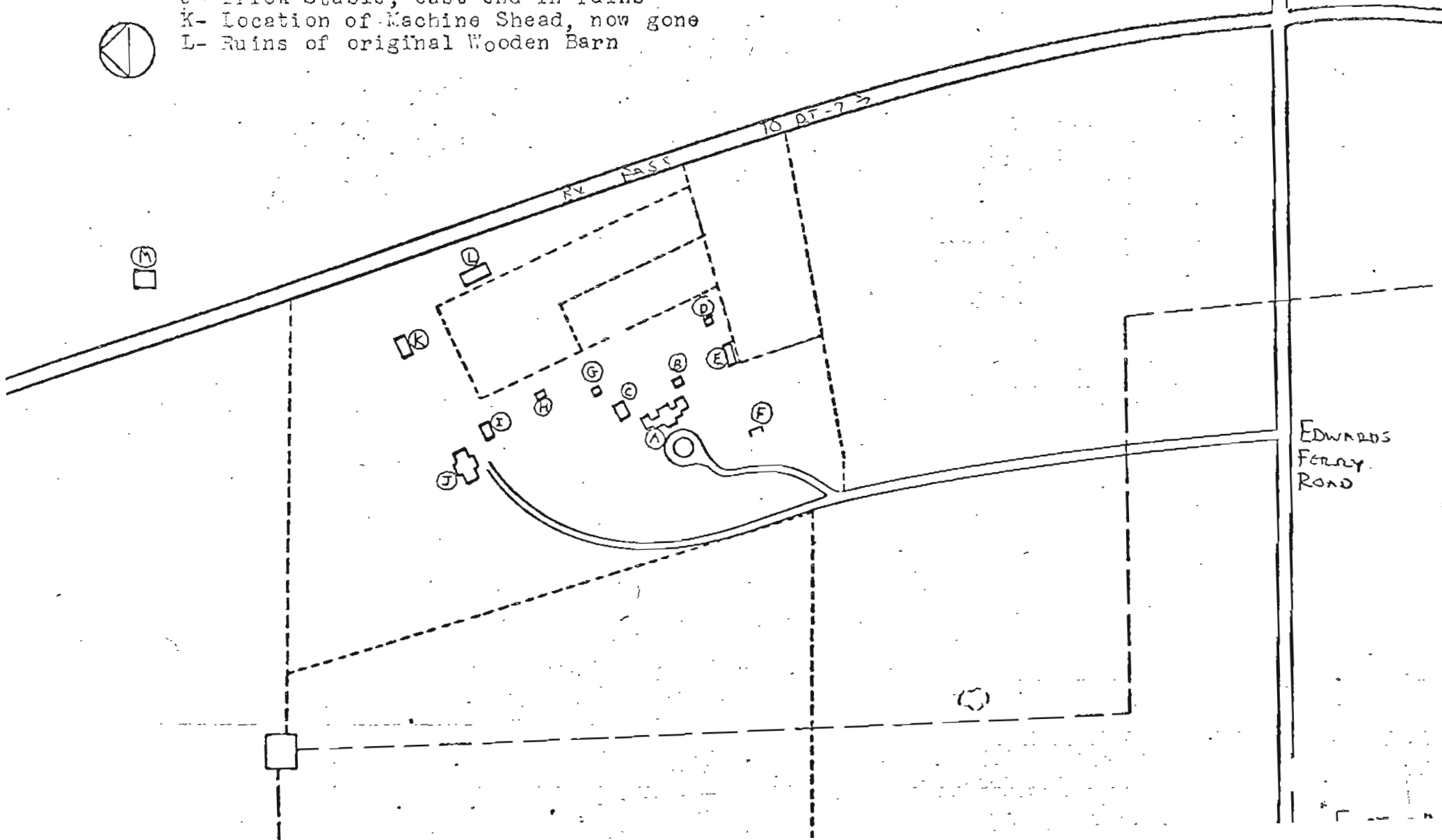
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| 4. IDENTIFICATION | | | |
| DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. | | | |
| View of first floor east room. | | | |



CODE:

- A- Main House with Wings, Passages and Dependancies
- B- Ruins of Stone Smoke House
- C- Ruins of Stone Dairy and Brick Additions for Slave Quarters
- D- Ruins of Stone Privy
- E- Late 19th or early 20th Century Chicken House, wooden
- F- Ruins of "Ice House"
- G- Ruins of Stone Ash House
- H- Ruins of Brick Privy
- I- Ruins of Wooden Corn House
- J- Brick Stable, east end in ruins
- K- Location of Machine Shead, now gone
- L- Ruins of original Wooden Barn



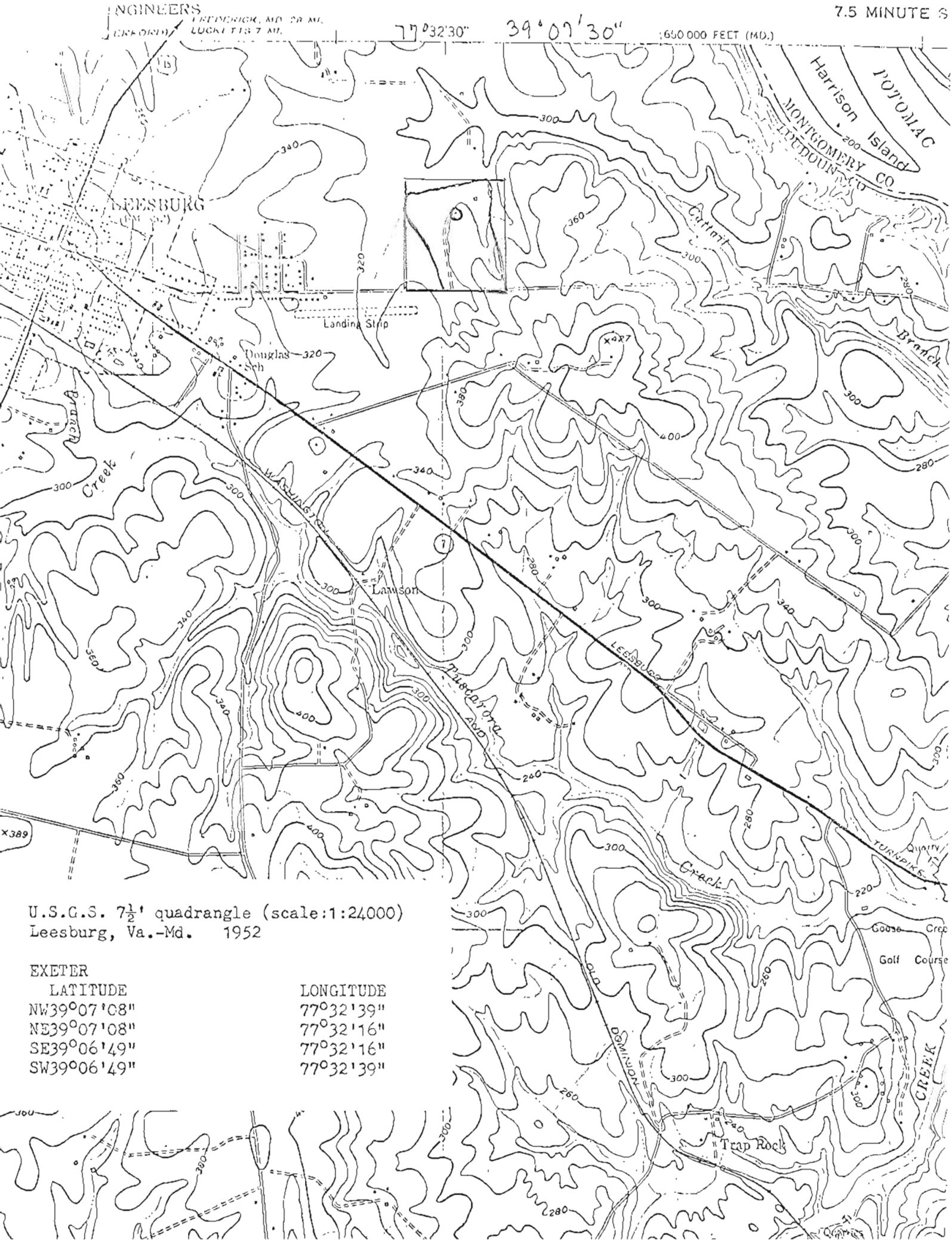
ENGINEERS
LEESBURG, MD. 28 MI.
LUCKY TIS 7 AM.

77°32'30"

39°07'30"

650 000 FEET (MD.)

7.5 MINUTE S



U.S.G.S. 7½' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)
Leesburg, Va.-Md. 1952

EXETER

LATITUDE

NW39°07'08"

NE39°07'08"

SE39°06'49"

SW39°06'49"

LONGITUDE

77°32'39"

77°32'16"

77°32'16"

77°32'39"